

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the present application. The Office Action dated May 3, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1 and 10 have been amended. Claims 4, 7, 9, and 16-20 have been withdrawn. Claims 21-23 are newly added. Therefore, claims 1, 2, 6, 10-15, and 21-23 are currently pending.

In the Office Action claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ashizawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,341,003.) Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 10-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakajima (U.S. Patent No. 6,281,958) in view of the Applicants related art (ARA).

The rejections of claims 1 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(2) is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, "wherein the rectangular edge portion of the first and second data electrodes is located inside the common line, and the round edge portion of the first and second data electrodes is located outside the common line". Claim 10 is allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a plurality of data electrodes parallel to the common electrodes, wherein first ends of the data electrodes are connected to the drain electrode of said thin film transistor, and second ends of the data electrodes are located on an inner portion of the common line, wherein edges of the data electrodes are rounded and correspond to a rubbing direction, and wherein the data electrodes and the common electrodes form an alternating pattern, wherein the rounded edges of the data electrodes are located outside the common line". Nakajima nor the ARA, either singly or in combination, do not teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention.

Newly added claims 21-23 are allowable over the cited art in that they recite a combination of elements including, for example "a data electrode with a first portion attached to the thin film transistor and extending substantially parallel to the gate line and with a second portion extending into the pixel area between the common electrodes and substantially

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perpendicular to the first portion, where the data electrode has first and second corners on either side of the second portion where the first and second portions join" and "wherein the first corner overlaps the one of the first common line and common electrode and the second corner is a rounded corner that does not overlap either the first common line or the common electrode."

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding objection and rejections of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If the Examiner deems that a telephone conversation would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (202) 496-7500.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: August 3, 2005

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